

DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

EPISCOPAL CHURCH CENTER • 815 SECOND AVENUE • NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017

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June 14, 1984

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BUILDING, CENTRAL AMERICACOMMAND COUNCIL ATTENTION

BURLINGAME, Calif. (DPS June 14) — Whether due to the setting — a retreat center — or merely the increasing familiarity of working together, the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church handled a full and often urgent agenda with grace and thoughtfulness rarely found in governing boards.

The 40-member Council met at the Mercy Center here June 6 to June 8 knowing it was going to have to deal with an extensive report from the Presiding Bishop's Central America Task Force and with the elements that begin to make up the triennial budget. What most members did not know was that they would also have to decide a thorny and urgent question about the possible sale of the Episcopal Church Center.

Acting on behalf of a special committee on the relocation of the Church Center, Council members Thomas Tisdale of Charleston and Harry Havemeyer of New York reported a tentative offer from a tax-exempt organization to acquire the building for \$26 million in cash. Asserting

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that the offer was large enough to force the Council to consider the stewardship of managing this asset, the pair presented a resolution in which Council authorized corporate officers to enter negotiation with the potential buyer.

The resolution set strict conditions for the negotiations including the minimum value -- \$26 million -- and the right to continue to occupy most of the building for approximately four years after the closing on a rental and shared expense basis. It also set a limit of six months on the authorization.

Tisdale and Havemeyer made it clear that the resolution dealt only with the disposal of the asset, not with the larger question of the final location of the Church Center as such. They held that a successful sale and investment of the proceeds would give the Church an annual sum of more than \$1 million a year above the rent/use costs which could be applied to a conscientious and thorough study of the relocation question.

While many on Council agreed with them, a significant minority pressed for considering the two issues together and argued that sale of the building would send a strong signal implying that the Center would be relocated. They asserted that this overstepped the Convention mandate to look into the best possible location and report back next year.

Although the proposal appeared to catch some of the Council by surprise, the highly-charged issue was handled gracefully and thoughtfully with most of the implications -- staffing, a new administration, budgetary effects, urban commitment -- winning a hearing before, after a few minutes of silent prayer, the Council voted 21-13 to authorize the negotiation.

The 21-year-old building is located in Manhattan's midtown East Side in an area of ballooning office real estate prices. Many U.N. missions are located in the area as are numerous foundations and corporate offices. Council members were told that the appraisal of the building had jumped \$7 million -- to approximately \$22.5 -- in three years. When it was built in the early 1960's the price tag for the site, construction and move from the old building was \$5.9 million.

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Nine floors of office and conference space are sandwiched between the chapel and lobby on the ground floor and residential space in the penthouse. The building also has two large storage/shipping areas. When it was opened, it was hailed in Church publications for its modern, efficient beauty. Once occupied solely by the Church Center staff and the Seabury Press, the building now houses a number of related Church agencies and also some unrelated non-profit organizations. Some floors have undergone repeated rearrangement.

Whether or not a sale is consummated, the panel that presented the proposal still has to consider the location question. Their efforts will be the third major survey on that issue in the last quarter-century. (Eds. Detailed story follows as DPS 84123)

By contrast to the sale authorization, the issues of budget philosophy and Central America seemed almost clear-cut.

Council had agreed to spend time at this meeting reviewing the philosophy that guides budget making before beginning the detailed work of drawing up 1985 budgets and the plan for the 1986-88 triennium which will be presented to the General Convention. In a committee of the whole to allow informal discussion, they reviewed the process through presentations by members of the finance administration committee, a question-answer panel and a talk by Presiding Bishop John M. Allin.

In his talk, Allin offered nine points to guide their deliberations, which the Council accepted by consensus. (Eds. see attachments) Chief among them are: "Budgets are means, not ends; managing and measuring instruments, not arenas for competition" and "The primary budget of this Council is needed both to support and stimulate the stewardship of the Episcopal Church nationwide."

In resolutions growing out of this session, Council agreed to expand its October meeting by one day to include a thorough review of Church Center goals and objectives and asked Allin to appoint a panel to develop criteria for reviewing programs. They also broadened the Council role in budget review with unit administrators.

The third major item on the agenda was one for which the Council had had a good deal of advance preparation: the Report of the Presiding Bishop's Task Force on Central America.

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Conceived early this year at the behest of the dioceses in Central America, the Task Force has already made pastoral and investigatory visits to Nicaragua, Honduras, Belize and Costa Rica; held a public hearing in New York and engaged in conversations with governments and labor, educational and non-profit organizations concerned with the region.

Their report won high praise from the Council and their recommendations were endorsed and forwarded to appropriate parties with enthusiasm. Council agreed to make the needs of Central American Episcopalians an integral part of the budget process both for next year and the next triennium and has asked that the full report be sent to all parishes for study and response. (Eds. See DPS 84124 and attachments.)

In spite of the fact that each of these items took a half-day of agenda time, Council also managed to visit a number of social service, cathedral and provincial ministries; enjoy the hospitality of San Francisco parishes and finish off a variety of more routine items of business. These included revisions of the missionary handbook, and a statement on autonomy, disbursement of undesignated Venture in Mission funds, updating the lay missionary pension plan and reports on educational programs. (Eds. See "Summary" 84125.)

The Council will meet once more this year on Oct. 29 through Nov. 1 at a hotel near New York's LaGuardia Airport. That meeting will probably be largely dedicated to budget matters and a report on the outcome of the sale negotiations.

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COUNCIL OKAYS TALKS

ON CHURCH CENTER SALE

DPS 84123

BURLINGAME, Calif. (DPS, June 14) -- Following a few moments of silent prayer, the Executive Council, in its role as the Board of Directors of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, voted 21-13 to authorize negotiations for the sale of the Episcopal Church Center building in New York.

The resolution, which will remain in force for six months, came in response to an offer from a non-profit organization of \$26 million in cash for the building. If the sale goes through, the Episcopal Church could continue to occupy the equivalent square footage of three floors of the building for approximately four years after the closing.

The debate here was characterized by observers as among the most calmly reasoned and well thought-out in the Council's history, despite obviously strong emotions on both sides. In their statements, many Council members appeared to be thinking out loud, sharing their thoughts in a struggle to arrive at the right decision.

Thomas Tisdale and Harry Havemeyer, members of both the Executive Council and Presiding Bishop John M. Allin's advisory committee on relocation of the Church Center, began the discussion with an explanation of the resolution as presented and an overview of its history.

The question of possible relocation of the Church Center had arisen as early as 1973, when a study was done of other possible sites. The recommendation made at that time was that the Church Center remain where it was. Since then, real estate values in the Church Center area have escalated wildly, making the Center prime office space, and offers for the building have been frequent. In 1981, the Executive Council authorized the appointment of the advisory committee on relocation, and the 1982 General Convention passed a resolution requesting the Council to study relocation and report back to the 1985 Convention.

Recently, however, the Church received the offer of \$26 million for the building, which has been appraised as being worth between

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\$21 and \$23 million. The amount by which the offer exceeds current market value was one of the factors in its consideration. Others were that it is for cash, that time would be allowed for transition, and that the organization involved is non-profit. Although the delicacy of negotiations prevented the committee's revealing the organization's name, when queried by Council committee members indicated their belief that the Council and the Church at large would not find it objectionable.

In his delineation of the committee's approach, Havemeyer stated that the question was not just that of the best location, but of evaluating the present Episcopal Church Center in terms of its value, the financial worth of the building, and stewardship of it as an asset of the Church. He expressed a personal feeling of "a ripeness in time" to consider this.

Many Council members were distressed at the rapidity with which events had progressed and the lack of time available for consideration, but those involved in the negotiations explained that the offer was very recent and had to be acted upon immediately or the opportunity would be lost. There was also some question as to whether the Council had the authority to authorize the sale of the Church Center. This was answered that, acting as a board of directors, Council did indeed have such authority.

Among those on Council who opposed the resolution, there was a concern about its impact on staff and program and about the amount of time and energy relocation would require from the next Presiding Bishop. Those in favor stressed the potential profit — estimated at \$1 million per year, net — and a belief that the present building was inefficient and generally unsatisfactory. A question which engaged both sides — and to which General Convention will have to address itself — was that of where the Church Center would ultimately be located in the event of the building's sale. The Rev. Frederick Borsch spoke up to underline the symbolism involved in any action of this sort and added, "we can't look at it as a straight real estate deal, much as we might like to."


Speaking for the resolution, George McGonigle appealed to Council not to be captive to its fears, and called on them "with the

Lord's good guidance, to redefine ourselves." Pamela Chinnis, however, spoke for many when, noting the amount of time and energy the debate was consuming in Council, she questioned whether a decision to sell the building would make the Church so intent on internal affairs that it would fail to look around at larger issues.

As the debate was drawing to a close, it was Dixie Hutchinson who requested that time be set aside for prayer before the final vote "to give the Holy Spirit opportunity". She cited the prayer time taken before an important building decision by St. Luke's Church in her home state of Texas and by General Convention prior to the vote on ordination of women.

In the course of discussions which followed the approval of the resolution, the Rt. Rev. Walter Righter offered a resolution in support of the work of the advisory committee and requesting a report on relocation from them at the February Council meeting. This was passed unanimously.

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SUMMARY OF ACTIONS OF
THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

DPS 84125

BURLINGAME, Calif. (DPS, June 14) -- The Executive Council of the Episcopal Church met here June 6-8.

The Council -- which sets policy and develops programs for the Church between the triennial meetings of the General Convention -- consists of 40 members: 20 elected by the Convention; 18 elected by the Church's nine internal provinces, the Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. John M. Allin, and the President of the House of Deputies, Dr. Charles R. Lawrence. The Rev. Canon James R. Gundrum is secretary.

Most resolutions for Council action come through six standing committees and occasionally a special committee or sub-committee.

The Council took the following actions:

National Mission in Church and Society -- The Very Rev. Allen Bartlett

● Adopted and authorized promotion of Amnesty International's 12-Point Program for the Prevention of Torture and called upon the President and the Congress of the United States to commit this country to work for the abolishment of torture worldwide. Instructed the Secretary to communicate this to the President, Congress, and other appropriate national leaders.

● Reaffirmed its resolution of February 1982 calling for an international Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, and Stockpiling of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction and urged the President to eliminate funding for chemical weapons.

● Affirmed the following as Jubilee Centers: St. Luke's Jubilee Center, Atlanta, Ga.; Sanford Christian Sharing Center, Sanford, Fla.; Trinity Episcopal Church, Muscatine, Ia.; St. Andrew's Church, Milwaukee, Wis.; The House of Prayer, Newark, N.J.; Grace Episcopal Church, Elizabeth, N.J.; St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, New York, N.Y.; Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh, Penn.; Church of the Advent, Cincinnati, Oh.; Highland Educational Project, Northfolk, W. Va.; Appalachian Peoples' Service Organization (APSO), Blacksburg, Va.; St. Luke's on the Island, Wheeling, W. Va.; Trinity Episcopal Church, Morgantown, W. Va.; Holy Cross

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Jubilee Center, Shreveport, La.; and Turner House, Kansas City, Kan.

- Authorized a grant of \$10,000 from the Vincent Astor Fund to the Diocese of Long Island for a Japanese Ministry at St. Luke's Church, Forest Hills.

- Agreed to resume support and funding for the Washington Office on Africa at its previously scheduled level, since that organization has withdrawn a recent publication as an unauthorized departure from its stated non-partisan policy.

- Heard a report from Luis Ornelas, liaison to the National Hunger Committee, expressing that group's feeling that the concerns of the hungry are not being raised enough in this country and requesting that those attending national political conventions be urged to raise the hunger issue there.

- Learned of the results of the following stockholder resolutions: after the withdrawal of a resolution calling on J. P. Morgan not to give loans to South Africa, Morgan, at its stockholder meeting, affirmed that it is not their policy to make such loans; a similar resolution directed at the Cigna Corporation was dropped, since they do not make loans to South Africa; a resolution requesting American Telephone and Telegraph not to accept nuclear contracts for its Sandia National Laboratories was disallowed by the Securities and Exchange Commission as being too similar to one offered last year. Of the four resolutions presented at stockholder meetings, that requesting Motorola not to sell to South Africa's military or police (presented for the second time) received insufficient favorable votes to qualify for a third presentation; that to Raytheon regarding military contracts received insufficient favorable votes to be repeated; that to Schlumberger on sales to the U.S.S.R. failed but with sufficient votes for re-submission; and that requesting Dresser to sign the Sullivan Principles failed but with 11.43 percent favorable vote, and Dresser has since agreed to sign the Principles.

World Mission in Church and Society -- The Rt. Rev. A. Donald Davies

- Received the Report of the Central America Task Force, commended the Presiding Bishop for his initiative and ordered staff and Council chairs to develop budget priorities to respond to the initiatives of the Report.

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- Issued an Open Letter to the Church calling on all Episcopalians to "study, discuss and take action" on the Report.
- Reaffirmed support for the Contadora Central American Peace Initiative, called for cessation of all military activities in the countries, and urged support for non-violent solutions.
- Referred the Report to the planning committee of the Mid-Lambeth-Latin America Congress for inclusion in its deliberations.
- Referred the Report — especially the pertinent recommendations — to the Anglican Consultative Council, the Executive Council's Standing Committees, the Anglican Council of North America and the Caribbean, and the Council of Province IX and asked the latter two to give special attention to refugee concerns, bilingual ministry needs and theological education.
- Expressed appreciation to the Churches in Central America for their initiating and supporting the Task Force work.
- Thanked Bishop Armando Guerra of Guatemala; Canon Robert Carlson; the Rev. Sergio Carranza, provincial secretary; and Mr. Edley Hall for their witness on behalf of Province IX.
- Urged the United States to activate a category of "extended voluntary departure status" to govern some Central American and other refugees residing in the U.S.
- Authorized establishment of Companion relationships between the Diocese of North Carolina and Belize, and the Diocese of Long Island and the Province of the West Indies, and renewed the relationships existing between Central Florida and Honduras, Colorado and Southern Malawi and Louisiana and the Virgin Islands.
- Expressed appreciation for the appointment as missionaries of: the Rev. B. F. Briener to the faculty of Selly Oaks College, England; The Rev. C. E. Colby to St. Alban's Parish, Bogota, Colombia; R. F. Folkerts, to St. Julian's Centre, Limuru, Kenya as warden; B. B. Jackman to the Province of Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire as provincial treasurer; the Rev. J. A. Langfeldt to the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf; and the Rev. H. C. McMurtry to St. John the Divine Parish, Guam.
- 0 Expressed thanks to the following missionaries upon completion of

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their tours: The Rev. M. F. Brown, from Costa Rica; Stephanie Hodgkins from Tanzania; the Rev. P. D. Lawson from Cyprus and the Gulf; the Rev. R. I. Metz from the Philippine Episcopal Church; the Rev. J. Moriyama from Tanzania; the Rev. Karl Ruttan from Northern Zambia; the Rt. Rev. L. Shirley from bishop of Panama; the Rev. G. R. Sumner from Tanzania; and the Rev. J. H. Wengrovius from Southern Malawi.

● Expressed appreciation for the appointment of the following Volunteers for Mission: Bea W. W. Avant; Sr. Angela Washburn, WSHS; the Rev. Enrique Brown; Dr. Irene Jackson-Brown; the Rev. J. D. Canfill; J. T. Hardy, Mr. & Mrs. J. H. Thompson, Jr.; Ruth Harvey; Laurie E. Hirschenhofer; Ann Lovejoy Johnson; M.J. Mutscheller; Pedtger Prewandowski; J. M. J. Sanlei; Susan E. Sitler; and D. N. Wait.

● Expressed thanks to Dr. J. M. Highsmith and the Rev. Henry Sturtevant upon completion of their tours as Volunteers for Mission.

● Received "as the basis for policy of future partner relationships" the reports of Partners in Mission Consultations in East Asia, the West Indies, Ireland, and West Africa.

● Approved a grant of \$4,500 from Trust Fund income for development of indigenous leadership in a recognized seminary in Nicaragua upon the recommendation of the Theological Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean.

● Approved revisions in the statement governing the process of working toward autonomy.

● Accepted recommendations for revision of the Handbook of Guidelines for the Support of Overseas Missionaries to bring it into line with Council actions since the last revision in 1979.

● Learned that the committee had engaged in a two-day session with the Standing Commission on World Mission of the General Convention to coordinate policy and program.

● Agreed to ask the Standing Commission on Ecumenical Relations to respond to a letter from the Diocese of Central Gulf Coast regarding World Council and National Council of Churches relationships.

● Asked the Presiding Bishop to assure the Episcopal Churchwomen of Province II that there appears to be no conflict between the work of the

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Church Periodical Club and Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge.
Education for Mission and Ministry -- Harry Griffith

- Allocated \$50,000 from the Constable Fund to aid in developing a Christian Education curriculum for American Indian/Alaskan Native children and youth by the Office of Ministries with Children in conjunction with the Dakota Curriculum Alliance Advisory Board.
- Heard a report on a meeting to form a lay professional support system and possible national steering committee.
- Learned of the cancellation of the proposed conference on draft counselling due to lack of registration and of the planning team's intention to survey youth via a questionnaire to be circulated at the August national youth event to determine whether this is an issue with them.
- Learned of meeting held in response to General Convention's resolution on sexuality to discover educational ways of connecting sexual issues with Christianity.
- Learned of Oct. 9-11 consultation on spiritual direction and healing.
- Heard report from the Rev. Fred Howard and the Rev. Sergio Carranza on leadership trainers' workshop scheduled for Province IX in June.
- Expressed support for the Central America Task Force and its findings and suggested that a core budget be set up to be divided among units according to responsibilities in order to put together the \$500,000 they estimated follow-through on Task Force recommendations would take.
- Received a report from the Rev. Fred Borsch on the Episcopal Service Community and its pilot projects.
- Received a Council on Women's Ministries request for \$198,000.
- Reported a request for doubling of funding to black colleges.
- Agreed to ask Barry Menuez, Executive for Education for Mission and Ministry, to respond to a letter from Dorothy W. Frey on behalf of the Province II ECW regarding Episcopal resources on divorce, alcoholism, incest, and domestic violence.

Stewardship -- Pamela C. Chinnis

- Approved appropriation of Venture in Mission undesignated funds to three projects: the Phillippine Episcopal Church, \$100,000 to relieve General Church Program support; \$50,000 to the South Pacific Anglican Council, Fiji development project; and \$150,000 to supplement the Overseas Development Fund in support of projects already in hand.

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● Learned that the Diocese of Alaska has completed a Venture in Mission campaign with pledges in hand for \$60,000 above their \$600,000 goal and that the diocese of El Camino Real is planning a \$2.4 million campaign and Central New York one for \$1.8 million.

● Learned that the new stewardship materials utilize the theme of SWEEP.

● Learned that five regional conferences on stewardship have been completed and that interest in the Council's Planned Giving Program is growing.

Finance/Administration - The Rev. Donald Hungerford

● Engaged, pursuant to a resolution from the February meeting, in a review of the budget-making process and philosophy to prepare members for the preparation and approval of the 1985 Program Development Budget and the 1986-88 proposal to the General Convention and accepted for guidance a nine-point paper on budget philosophy offered by the Presiding Bishop. (Attached, see page 30)

● Authorized changes in the lay missionary pension plan (last revised in 1970) to bring the plan into line with current economic needs and into line with clerical missionary pension plans.

● Agreed to extend the fall meeting one day (midday Oct. 29 through Nov. 1 instead of adjourning Oct. 31) in order to allow time for consideration of the 1985 budget and reviewing of the goals and objectives for 1986-88.

● Agreed to allow each committee to send one additional person -- along with the chairman -- to the budget development meetings with Church Center unit executives.

● Requested that each committee -- in rotating order and one at each meeting -- give an overview of its work and ministry .

● Asked the Presiding Bishop to appoint a committee to develop a mechanism for independent evaluation of programs funded by the Program Development Budget.

● Agreed that they, as a body, "should become more intentional about being a board of directors.

● Agreed to the dissolution of the American Council of St. Luke's International Medical Center, Tokyo, to protect the not-for-profit work the Council does on behalf of the Center while eliminating burdens imposed by tax administration.

Communication -- William Baker

- Commended Henry McCorkle on his retirement after 25 years of service to the Church through The Episcopalian.
- Authorized the allocation of \$15,000 from the Constable Fund for the production of two 30-minute videotapes, one technical, the other of broader application, and other material for congregations and dioceses to use in preparing for the publication of The Hymnal 1982.
- Heard report on committee's meeting with the communication task force of the Diocese of California and recommendation that Council continue such cross-fertilization.
- Learned that the Presiding Bishop's Task Force on Satellite Communication has elected the Rev. Robert Browne of Indianapolis to its chair and has agreed to proceed slowly.
- Heard report on efforts of three major producers to meet the needs of local groups for centralized distribution of video programs of a religious nature for use on local cable television stations. A further report will be made to the October Council meeting.
- Viewed public service announcements on peace and on prevention of teenage suicide which have been accepted by all three networks.
- Heard about the establishment of the American branch of the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge.
- Received the second issue of the journal of the Council on Women's Ministries.

Presiding Bishop -- The Most Rev. John M. Allin

- Welcomed Archdeacon Lincoln Eng of Oregon and the Rev. Lyle Noisy Hawk of South Dakota as newly-elected members of Council and learned that Archdeacon Eng would be assigned to the Stewardship committee and Fr. Nosy Hawk to the National Mission committee and that the Rev. Ricardo Potter would be permanently assigned to the Communication committee.
- Welcomed as guests of the Council Bishop Armando Guerra of Guatemala, Canon Robert Carlson of Honduras, Edley Hall of Costa Rica and the Rev. Sergio Carranza, secretary of Province IX.
- Greeted Patrick Gilbert of the Society for Preserving Christian Knowledge and the Rev. Roswell Moore and Archdeacon Clarence Stacey of the Province of the Pacific.

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● Received, by consensus, a nine-point paper on budget philosophy drafted by the Presiding Bishop.

● Learned that overtures to relieve the plight of Sudanese Christians suffering persecution are being pressed through Anglican and international channels.

● Learned that the Rev. Howard S. Meeks of Central Florida had been elected bishop coadjutor of Western Michigan and Dean Don A. Wimberly of Florida had been elected bishop coadjutor of Lexington and sent greetings to those two dioceses meeting in convention.

Secretary of Executive Council/Executive Officer of General Convention

-- The Rev. Canon James R. Gundrum

● Noted copy of letter received from Archbishop of Canterbury to the Philippine Independent Church on its triennial assembly with hope for wider cooperation in the Anglican Communion.

● Expressed thanks to Sister Mary Yvonne and the Sisters of Mercy for their hospitality and assistance; to the Rev. Canon Roswell Moore, Henry Richards, the Rt. Rev. William Swing, and the Diocese of California for their assistance; and to the people of St. Francis and St. Barnabas Churches and all ministry sites visited for their hospitality.

● Expressed appreciation to and gave thanks for 40 years of ministry of the Most Rev. John M. Allin, Presiding Bishop.

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: CENTRAL AMERICA LETTER

DPS 84126

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The Report and Recommendations of the Presiding Bishop's Central America Task Force was considered sufficiently important for the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church to take the highly-unusual step of issuing an open letter on the subject from the Council, as a body, to the entire Episcopal Church. The text of that letter follows. It will be sent -- with a letter of transmittal from Presiding Bishop John M. Allin and Dr. Charles R. Lawrence, president of the House of Deputies, outlining the origin and work of the Task Force -- to each parish and mission of the Church.)

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE CHURCH

We, the members of the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church in the United States, desire to share our response to the first Report of the Task Force on Central America. We share this Report at a time when members of the Episcopal Church in Central America are in the midst of crisis. The situation demands our attention not only because of the crisis there, but because they are our brothers and sisters in Christ.

In their visit, the Task Force members saw and heard of the political tension, destruction and civil strife, endemic poverty, severe economic crisis, human dislocation and forced migration, and family loss and separation existing in the countries which for the most of us are only daily headlines. There is an urgent need for pastoral care of the people of Central America, both in that region and for those who have sought refuge in the United States. To enable both our planning and action, we write to encourage your participation.

First, we commend to the Church the Report of the Task Force on Central America for study and prayer.

Second, we call attention to the specific recommendations in the Report addressed to all Episcopalians, namely:

- affirm and learn from the work of the churches in Central America the poor ministering to the poor
- affirm the continuing efforts of churches in Central America to shape their unique identities and maintain their pastoral and prophetic roles
- foster educational and consciousness-raising opportunities about Central America
- support through the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief a special Central America appeal and on-going efforts to assist Central American churches answer human need in the areas of relief, rehabilitation, development and refugee/migration ministries
- support through the United Thank Offering missions efforts identified by Central American churches

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- seek significant involvement in Central America through Companion Diocese, Venture in Mission, ecumenical and other programs
- become advocates for peace with justice in Central America, letting their voices be heard through your elected representatives
- encourage and support church leadership at all levels to make the Church's voice heard prophetically in the Central America crisis and in the United States' involvement in that crisis
- utilize occasions and observances such as "Central America Week" (March 17-25 — sponsored by the Interreligious Task Force on Central America and local task forces) to focus the attention and response of congregations on Central America
- give particular attention to ministry to and among Central Americans living in the United States
- continue in prayer and awareness of the people of Central America: their history, culture, victimization, suffering, needs.

Third, we recognize that only through an informed and committed Church can public policy concerning Central America be affected. Therefore, we urge each Church member to join in praying and working for a peaceful solution to the problems before us. The Report identifies appropriate ways of responding, e.g. Companion Diocese involvement, formation of advocacy groups, and by all means, planned travel and firsthand experience and support of our neighbors in Central America.

Share with us this pastoral concern, which at this moment in history can overwhelm our brothers and sisters in Christ without our outreach and evident response to those who are also committed to the Lord's Mission.

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: PRESIDING BISHOP'S HOMILY

DPS 84127

(Editor's note: On June 6, 1984, Presiding Bishop John M. Allin celebrated the Eucharist during a meeting of the Executive Council at the Mercy Retreat Center in Burlingame, Cal. It was the fortieth anniversary of his ordination to the diaconate. It was also the fortieth anniversary of D Day. The following is excerpted from Bishop Allin's sermon).

I am grateful for this opportunity to be here with all of you who are members of the Executive Council and guests and with those who are providing for us in this place. This is a special day for me in that it was forty years ago today that I was ordained a deacon. I remember the day well, of course.

The bishop called me at 7:30 a.m. I was more in awe of bishops in those days and was delighted that he would call on the day of my ordination.

"Jack," he said, "this is D Day."

I did not get the point. I thought how nice it was for the bishop to call me and speak of my ordination in such a light, informal manner. Bishop Bland Mitchell of Arkansas was a rather stern man. My response to him was glib - and quite inappropriate.

Mitchell told me of the allied invasion.

"What shall we do?" he asked.

It was the first time he had asked my opinion on anything. And I do not recall his asking my advice much after that, either. We talked, and he decided we would hold a special prayer service before beginning the ordination service, remembering those whose lives would be lost during the invasion in Europe.

And that is what we did.

The church was packed that morning. I was ordained in a small town. I knelt in a back pew during the litany, wearing a necktie. I didn't believe in putting a collar on until the service of ordaining. I was conscious of the fact that I was not in the military service because I had been in seminary - even though the course had been speeded up with the view that I would enter the Navy as a chaplain.

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We prayed for those who had given their lives in service, in the service of their fellow citizens.

And then I was ordained to a ministry of service, a deacon.

Ever since that day and possibly because of it, two major emphasis of ministry for me have been reconciliation and service to others in the name of the Prince of Peace.

On that day I was given all the authority I have ever possessed as an ordained minister. I have been given greater opportunities and greater responsibilities since, but never have I been given greater authority. For the greatest authority we share in ministry is the authority of service, the authority that is only gained when one reaches out to help another.

During the past forty years I have participated in arguments and discussions about things that today do not seem very important. There were the arguments over churchmanship, for example. All of us must come to understand that when things we have felt to be important crumble and disappear, the grace of God still remains.

To encounter the gentle love of service is to encounter the power of authority. Being conscious of those with whom we share ministry but cannot see is a way of exercising that authority.

It is service that leads us on, and leads us above all to fulfill the will of God by making life available to others as he has made it available to us.

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: BUDGET PHILOSOPHY

DPS 84128

Points Pertaining to a Philosophy of the General Operational Budget of the Episcopal Church Offered by Presiding Bishop John M. Allin

1. A board of rotating membership, such as this Executive Council and Board of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America, does well to use some regular occasion to update their understanding of the wisdom needed and employed to develop, maintain, and effectively use a budget to enable the duties and responsibilities assigned to the board.

2. Each member of the Board, in the shared responsibility of oversight and policy setting regarding and concerning the comprehensive mission and relationships of the Episcopal Church, has a shared responsibility for the necessary support, the maintenance of balance and flexibility for the whole operational/service budget needed to enable the coordination of the Episcopal Church nationally and worldwide.

3. The general operational/service budget of the National Church for which the Executive Council has responsibility, is primarily to provide necessary national personnel, services, and functions for administering and coordinating national and global support systems of and for communication, education and evangelistic, relief and development ministries in Christian mission. Such support systems extend among the dioceses, provinces, and ecumenically.

4. The primary budget of this Council is needed both to support and stimulate the stewardship of the Episcopal Church nationwide. The wise use of the 20+ million dollars in the general operational service budget defined by the Executive Council can increase both the amount and use of the cumulative financial resources of the congregations of this Church nationwide to meet acute and varied human needs both locally and worldwide. The cumulative budget of the congregations within the United States presently stands in excess of 765 million dollars annually.

5. Alert attention and good planning are continuing needs to avoid undertaking or underwriting with the general operational service budget of this Church program, projects, or ministries that properly need grater financial support from across the whole Church.

6. The primary budget of this Council being needed for operational and support services is not adequate as a source for "grants." Grants must be provided through other budgets of funds especially raised for such purposes, i.e. the UTO, the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief etc.

7. Both as a member of this Council and for the Presiding Bishop, let me urge that a proper budget philosophy for this Council is that our resources be primarily used to enable every baptized member of this church in every congregation possible to offer their best to God through sharing life with others in and through Christian mission.

8. Budgets are means, not ends; managing and measuring instruments, not arenas for competition.

9. The budgeting philosophy within the Church's life and organization is only as wise as the Christian mission thereby enabled is effectively extended.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL: PERTINENT RESOLUTIONS

DPS 84129

Report of Advisory Committee on
Evaluation of the Episcopal Church Center

Resolved, that the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America be authorized to negotiate the sale of the real property owned by it at 815 Second Avenue, New York City on the following terms and conditions:

1. for a price not less than \$26,000,000 cash, net of commissions, except as provided hereinafter, to be paid as follows:
 - a) \$2,600,000 at the time of the acceptance of a contract from a prospective purchaser;
 - b) the balance, after the deduction of ordinary fees and expenses, at a closing to be held within 6 months of the acceptance of a contract of sale;

2. the Seller shall have the right to occupy the premises for a period of approximately 4 years after closing except for an area constituting the equivalent of the square footage of 3 floors, the location and specification of such reserved area to be negotiated by the Society. The Society is also authorized to negotiate and agree to pay a reasonable rent or fees in lieu of rent, and to share reasonably in the operating expenses, exclusive of any real property taxes or payments in lieu thereof, of the building on a pro rata basis, during the Seller's occupancy of the premises after the sale; and be it further

Resolved, That the officers and appointed representatives of the Society shall have the authority to negotiate and make the necessary agreements concerning the details of such a prospective sale, including arranging for the payment of a reasonable real estate commission to any agent retained by the Society; and the President and Treasurer are hereby authorized to execute all documents necessary to effect such a sale, including contracts, deeds, and lease agreements, etc; and be it further Resolved, That unless a contract is accepted upon the terms specified herein within 6 months of the date hereof, the authority granted by this resolution to sell the described premises shall terminate; and be it further

Resolved, That the form of this resolution may be modified to the extent necessary to satisfy the provisions of New York law as long as the substance hereof is not affected.

Report of Central America Task Force Received

Resolved, That this Executive Council receive the interim Report of the Central America Task Force and commend the Presiding Bishop for his initiative in naming the Task Force and responding to the request for a team visit; and be it further

Resolved, that the Church Center staff and the committee chairs in consultation develop budget askings in relation to the program needs ETC.

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Call to Action on Central America Task Force

Resolved, That this Executive Council call on all Episcopalians to study, discuss and take action on the Central America Task Force Report of June 1984, with special reference to the recommendations addressed to the Church and to Church agencies; and be it further

Resolved, That the Open Letter to the Church be accepted by the Council; that it be distributed, together with a copy of the Report, to each congregation; with a covering letter from Bshop Allin and Dr. Lawrence in their capacities as President and Vice-Chairman of this Council.

Contadora Initiative

Resolved, That this Executive Council, in support of the Lambeth Conference resolution of 1978 on non-violent solutions and in response to the Diocese of Nicaragua in its resolution of November 1983, call for the cessation of all covert and overt military activities in Central America, support the Contadora initiative and process and urge the President of the United States and the Secretary General of the United Nations to support non-violent solutions to the conflicts in the countries of Central America; and be it further

Resolved, That all Episcopalians be urged to convey this action to their Congressional representatives.

Central America Task Force Report
Mid Lambeth-Latin America Congress

Resolved, That this Executive Council endorse and refers to the Planning Committee of the Mid Lambeth-Latin America Congress event the Central America Task Force Report so that the crisis in Central America in its broader context can be included in the agenda.

Central America Task Force Report
Refer to Anglican Consultative Council

Resolved, That this Executive Council endorses and refers to the Anglican Consultative Council those pertinent recommendations in the Central America Task Force Report.

Central America Task Force Referred to
Appropriate Standing Committees for Implementation

Resolved, That this Executive Council receive the recommendations addressed to it in the Central America Task Force Report, refer them to the appropriate Standing committees for implementation, and request a progress report to be presented to the next meeting of Council.

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Central American Task Force Referral to ACNAC

Resolved, That this Executive Council endorses and refers to the Executive Committee of ACNAC and the Provincial Council of Province IX the Central America Task Force Report with a special reference to:

1. Initiating a coordinated response to development and refugee/migration concerns, and
2. Giving immediate attention to the repeated requests of the Diocese of Belize for assistance in bilingual ministry.
3. Developing a plan to develop and enhance theological education in Central America working with appropriate agencies.

Appreciation to Churches in Central America

Resolved, That this Executive Council express appreciation to the Churches in Central America for receiving and welcoming the Central America Task Force, and that appreciation also be expressed for the sense of solidarity which evolved from that visit; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Executive Council convey this appreciation to the several dioceses in Central America.

Thanksgiving for the presence of
our visitors from the IX Province

Resolved, That this Executive Council give thanks to God for the witness of Mr. Edley Hall in Costa Rica, the Rev. Sergio Carranza in Mexico, the Rev. Canon Robert Carlson in Honduras, and the Rt. Rev. Armando Guerra in Guatemala; and be it further

Resolved, That this Executive Council express its deep appreciation for the presence of these people with us at this meeting.

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